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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 017753-109

#50a

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Marcelo LOPEZ LASTRA et al.

Application No.: Unassigned  
(Corresponds to PCT/FR98/00849)

International Filing Date: 28 April 1998

For: NOVEL INTERNAL RIBOSOME  
ENTRY SITE AND VECTOR  
CONTAINING SAME

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) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
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) Examiner: Unassigned  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite claims 10, 14, 19-22 and 24 to read as follows:

a'  
10. (Amended) Vector [according to claim 8 or 9,] for the expression of one or more genes of interest comprising the nucleotide sequence used according to claim 1, which is derived from a retrovirus and which comprises at least the following elements associated in a functional manner: a retroviral 5' LTR and a retroviral 3' LTR, one or more genes of interest, and said nucleotide sequence as defined in [one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1 to allow or improve the encapsidation of said vector into a viral particle and/or as an IRES site to